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and Bethlehem. There is much that is personal and genealogical, and the narrative turns frequently to such topics as Indian affairs, early methods of transportation, the religious sects of Pennsylvania, the development of the coal and the iron industries, the social life at the various springs, together with glimpses here and there of politics and military affairs. There is a wealth of photographic illustration, and an index chiefly of persons and places.

In her introductory chapter Miss Wharton very properly finds fault with the ignorance of "otherwise intelligent persons" with regard to the past events and present attainments of Pennsylvania, and severely criticizes, in particular, some invidious remarks in Mr. Theodore Dreiser's book, *A hoosier holiday*; but she takes her revenge, albeit quite unintentionally, for she consistently gives the name of the writer as "Mr. Theodore Dreisler." It may be suggested, also, that the name of the estate of Langdon Cheves near Lancaster, given by Miss Wharton as "Abbeyville," must surely have been "Abbeville," after the native district of the South Carolinian.

ST. GEORGE L. SIOUSSAT

Soldiers and sailors of France in the American war for independence (1776-1783). By Captain Joachim Merlant. Translated from the French by Mary Bushnell Coleman. (New York: Charles Scribner's sons, 1920. 213 p. \$2.00)

This book is a brilliant essay on the part played by France in the establishment of the United States. The author has brought before us once more the half-forgotten chivalry of old France, and has made it appear as an order of clever and lovable men. He has explained the negotiations between France and congress with a keenness of perception that indicates that he is intimately acquainted with diplomacy.

Throughout, the book shows a subtle admiration for the American people. It is no less complimentary to the French, and after reading the descriptions of Lafayette, Gerard, De Grasse, and their compatriots, the American historian will feel a little ashamed of his doubts. The author depends largely upon Doniol for his material. He draws, however, from collections of memoirs and letters of French soldiers, many of which are little known in this country and have been little used even by French writers. The narrative is enlivened by many anecdotes that are to the point.

The book will be found useful and entertaining for the general reader and in it the student will find much to give him a better idea of French aid in the American revolution.

PAUL C. PHILLIPS